

Application No. 09/610,632  
**PATENT APPLICATION 09/610, 632**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Richard S. Neale, et al.

Art Unit: 2174

Appl. No.: 09/610,632

Examiner: Peng Ke

Filed: 07/05/2000

Title: Graphical User Interface For Building Boolean Queries And Viewing Search Results

Commissioner for Patents  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance, mailed 01/15/2005, applicant appreciates the examiner's allowance of claims 71-94. The examiner specifically stated that the "prior art fails to disclose or teach one or more pins graphically displayed between each pair of adjacent search cells, each pin having a shaft and a pinhead, and one or more combination brackets in a Boolean hierarchy within displayed adjacent to a least two search cells and having a combine[d] icon and a combination bracket flag...means for graphically sliding pins horizontally within the second column to generate and manipulate combination brackets and to alter Boolean hierarchy of the combination bracket claim limitations of claim 71-94." However, in addition to this novel feature, applicant believes there are other reasons for allowance that have not been cited by the examiner. For example, many elements of the dependent claims were not clearly taught or suggested by prior art. Also, the prior art fails to teach many of the novel features of the invention as outlined in the specification. Further, a number of elements of claims not yet allowed were not clearly taught or suggested by the prior art. Therefore the validity of the invention should not be limited by the examiner's statement for reasons for allowance.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

As stated in the response dated December 12, 2003, please change the correspondence address to: Kendyl A. Roman  
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